

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-16. (canceled)

17. (currently amended) A method of operating a powder paint applicator, comprising:

providing a powder paint color changer ~~assembly having~~ manifold having a hollow body portion with an outlet in fluid communication with the powder paint applicator and a plurality of inlets in respective fluid communication with a plurality of color change assemblies coupled to a like plurality of powder paint sources for selectively supplying a particular powder paint to the powder paint applicator, each color change assembly comprising a color valve having an outlet in fluid communication with an interior cavity of the hollow body portion and an inlet in fluid communication with a source of powder paint, and a purge fitting having a port adapted to be in fluid communication between a source of cleaning fluid and the color valve;

providing a pump in fluid communication with ~~an~~ the outlet of said powder paint color changer manifold and the powder paint applicator; and

selectively enabling a flow of ~~conveying fluid through said pump for~~ providing a suction force through said powder paint color changer assembly for drawing said particular powder paint from one of the plurality of powder paint sources coupled to the selectively enabled color change assembly through the color valve of the enabled

color change assembly, then through said powder paint color changer ~~assembly~~
manifold and into said pump for further conveyance to the powder paint applicator ~~by~~
~~said conveying fluid.~~

18. (currently amended) The method of Claim 17, further comprising
the steps of:

selectively disabling said flow of ~~conveying fluid~~ powder paint through said
pump;

purging said ~~powder paint color changer~~ enabled color change assembly
said color changer manifold, said pump and the powder paint applicator; and

selectively enabling one of the color change assemblies and said flow of
~~conveying fluid~~ powder paint through said pump ~~for providing a suction force through~~
~~said powder paint color changer assembly for drawing a powder paint through said~~
~~powder paint color changer assembly and into said pump~~ for further conveyance of
powder paint from the color changer manifold to the powder paint applicator ~~by said~~
~~conveying fluid.~~

19. (currently amended) The method of Claim 18, wherein said step of purging said ~~powder paint color changer~~ enabled color change assembly, said color changer manifold, said pump and the powder paint applicator, further comprises the steps of:

~~closing a source valve associated with a source of said particular powder paint;~~

enabling a flow of cleaning fluid through a purge ~~valve~~ port associated with said ~~source~~ color valve, said cleaning fluid flowing through the purge port into the color valve, said powder paint color changer ~~assembly~~ manifold, said pump and the powder paint applicator;

~~closing an intermediate~~ the color valve associated with said purge ~~valve~~ port;

opening a main cleaning valve associated with said powder paint color changer ~~assembly~~ manifold for enabling a flow of cleaning fluid through~~[[,]]~~ said powder paint color changer ~~assembly~~ manifold, said pump and the powder paint applicator;

closing said main cleaning valve; and

opening ~~an intermediate~~ a color valve associated with a source of powder paint desired for a subsequent application.